

# DECLARATION FOR PATENT APPLICATION

As a below-named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

AUDIO REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND METHOD

the specification of which: (check one)

☒ is attached hereto. ☐ was filed on \_\_\_\_\_, as United States Patent Application Serial No. or PCT International Application Number \_\_\_\_\_, and was amended on \_\_\_\_\_ (if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the patentability of this application in accordance with 37 CFR § 1.56(a).

Prior Foreign Application(s): I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or § 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below, or § 365(a) of any PCT international application which designated at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

| <u>2001-20047</u> | <u>JAPAN</u> | <u>29 Jan., 2001</u>   | <u>X</u>   | Priority Claimed | <u>( )</u> |
|-------------------|--------------|------------------------|------------|------------------|------------|
| (Application No.) | (Country)    | (Day/Month/Year Filed) | YES        |                  | NO         |
| <u>( )</u>        | <u>( )</u>   | <u>( )</u>             | <u>( )</u> |                  | <u>( )</u> |
| (Application No.) | (Country)    | (Day/Month/Year Filed) | YES        |                  | NO         |

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code § 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below:

| <u>Application No.</u> | <u>Filing Date</u> |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| <u>( )</u>             | <u>( )</u>         |

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 120 of any United States application(s) listed below or 34 U.S.C. § 365(e) of any PCT International Application designating the United States of America listed below, and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application or PCT application in the manner provided by 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in 37 CFR § 1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

| <u>(U.S. or PCT Application Serial No.)</u> | <u>(U.S. or PCT Filing Date)</u> | <u>(Status - patented, pending, abandoned)</u> |
|---|----------------------------------|--|
| <u>( )</u>                                  | <u>( )</u>                       | <u>( )</u>                                     |

I hereby appoint the following registered practitioners: Rudolf E. Hutz, Reg. No. 22,397; Harold Pezzner, Reg. No. 22,112; Richard M. Beck, Reg. No. 22,580; Paul E. Crawford, Reg. No. 24,397; Burton A. Amernick, Reg. No. 24,852; Stanley B. Green, Reg. No. 24,351; Morris Liss, Reg. No. 24,510; George R. Petit, Reg. No. 27,369; Patricia J. Smink Rogowski, Reg. No. 33,791; Robert G. McMorrow, Jr., Reg. No. 30,962; Ashley I. Pezzner, Reg. No. 35,646; William E. McShane, Reg. No. 32,707; Mary W. Bourke, Reg. No. 30,982; Gerard M. O'Rourke, Reg. No. 39,794; James M. Olson, Reg. No. 40,408; Francis DiGiovanni, Reg. No. 37,310; Eric J. Evain, Reg. No. 42,517; Daniel C. Mulveny, Reg. No. 45,897; Patrick J. Wells Reg. No. 46,355; Thomas F. Poche Reg. No. 45,017; Patrick H. Higgins, Reg. No. 38,709; Christine M. Hansen, Reg. No. 40,634; Daniel Harbison, Reg. No. 47,631; Gary Bridge, Reg. No. 44,560; Larry J. Hume, Reg. No. 44,163; Joseph Barrera 44,522; John A. Evans, (Agent) 44,100; and Elliot C. Mendelson (Agent), Reg. No. 42,878, with full power of substitution and revocation, to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

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I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements are made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. § 1001 and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Full name of sole or first inventor Mamoru KITAMURA

Inventor's Signature

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Citizenship

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Mamoru Kitamura

Date July 4, 2003

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☐ See next page for additional inventors